



DAWES SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION

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February 12, 2008

**Subject:** Drivers Records, DOT - PARS Program

Dear Representatives and Colleagues:

Our company employs many skilled and professional tradesmen in the construction industry. This includes Crane operators, Mechanics, and Truck Drivers. It also includes a battery of support people, including salesmen, shuttle-supply trucks, parts runners, apprentices, and trainees, all entrusted with company vehicles on the State's and Nation's Highways.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, through the State Legislators, has created an excellent program to assist employers in reviewing the driving records of it's employees as prescribed in Federal Motor Carrier Regulations 391.25 (2) which states that "The motor carrier must consider the driver's accident record and any evidence that the driver has violated laws governing the operation of motor vehicles, and must give great weight to violations such as speeding, reckless driving, and operating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, that indicate that the driver has exhibited a disregard for the safety of the public." This program is called the "Employers Notification Program" administered through the new PARS system, and regulated by State Statute 345.245 (3m). This notifies Companies of changes in their employees Drivers Records, shortly after they are recorded, automatically, thus allowing us to monitor and take corrective action where needed to guarantee the safety of the public. It is an invaluable tool to all safety minded companies.

There is one problem with this program however, which I believe can be easily corrected. Enrollment of employees into this program is restricted by definition to the State's definition of a commercial motor vehicle, which is a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of greater than 26,000 LBS, or requires a Commercial Driver's License to operate, as found in Wisconsin Statute 340.01 (8). Thus eliminating a good portion of our support vehicles, and others entrusted with the operation of our company's vehicles. For the sake of Safety, this program should be opened up to drivers of all Company vehicles so we can monitor their driving habits.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne P. Kokta  
Transportation Manager  
Dawes Rigging & Crane / DST Inc.



# MARK GOTTLIEB

Speaker Pro Tempore  
Wisconsin State Assembly

Testimony by Rep. Mark Gottlieb  
on AB 768  
Assembly Transportation Committee  
February 14, 2008

Thank you Chairman Petrowski for scheduling Assembly Bill 768 for a public hearing today.

This legislation was suggested to me by my constituent, Wayne Kokta of Cedarburg who is here with me today. Mr. Kokta is the Transportation Manager for Dawes Rigging & Crane/DST inc. in Milwaukee.

The Public Abstract Request System (PARS) is a secure, web-based system that allows instant access to driving records. The Employer Notification portion of PARS allows employers to enroll drivers in a monitoring program. Whenever an enrolled driver has activity such as an accident or conviction added to their record, the employer is sent an e-mail. The e-mail does not list the specific driver for security reasons, it just tells the employer to log on to the system for an updated record. Users of PARS with direct access to the DMV data are required to have a criminal background check performed.

Currently, employers can monitor employees that drive commercial vehicles. This legislation expands the employer notification to any type of employer-owned vehicle an employee uses in the course of their employment.

Giving employers the ability to monitor the driving record of employees who operate company-owned non-commercial vehicles will reduce their risk and promote public safety.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**